

Resolution Related to Resisting the Traditional Plan

Whereas, we stand on the shoulders of Deaconesses who faithfully and courageously answered their biblical call to advocate for justice.

Whereas, Deaconesses and Home Missioners continue that legacy and commit ourselves to stand in the margins, working in the diverse cutting-edge ministries to which we are called.

Whereas, for such a time as this we are called to make a prophetic witness during this time of challenge in The United Methodist Church.

Therefore Be It Resolved, the National Association of Deaconesses, Home Missioners and Home Missionaries make this public statement:

We are disciples of Jesus Christ, who are Deaconesses and Home Missioners, an inclusive, covenantal community with a mandate to:

- Alleviate suffering;
- Eradicate causes of injustice and all that robs life of dignity and worth;
- Facilitate the development of full human potential; and
- Share in building global community through the church universal. 2016 Book of Discipline Par. 1913.2

In 2018 we adopted this statement of values:

The National Association of Deaconesses and Home Missioners celebrates God's intentional and beautifully diverse human family and welcomes into membership, full participation, and leadership persons of all ages, races, ethnicities, family structure, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, economic background, political affiliation, physical and/or mental ability, faith history, and life experience. As a community, we commit ourselves to relationships, professional and ministry standards, and public witness that model for our church and world the equality, justice, and unconditional love that Jesus modeled throughout the gospels.

We are faithfully called to live into our mandate and values statement. We resist the Traditional Plan, and work towards its removal from the Book of Discipline. We are pleased to align ourselves with many other groups within The United Methodist Church that are actively resisting the implementation of the Traditional Plan and any other plan that harms LGBTQ people and all marginalized communities.

Therefore Be It Resolved, the National Association of Deaconesses, Home Missioners and Home Missionaries will issue a press release including the statement above within 30 days of its affirmation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Smith

Helen McCahill

Sue Wolfe

Steve Taylor

Cindy Andrade Johnson

Kim Burse

Susan Silhan

Darlene DiDomineck

Jamie LeJeune

Helen Ryde

Clara Ester

Katelin Hansen

Evana Lewis